



The Organic Recycling Industry in Australia

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Who are we?

- Compost Australia
- A division of WMAA
- Compost working groups in 5 states
- Compost for Soils marketing brand
- Certified Compost for quality 'application specific' products
- Industry supported by state government funding

What Industry?

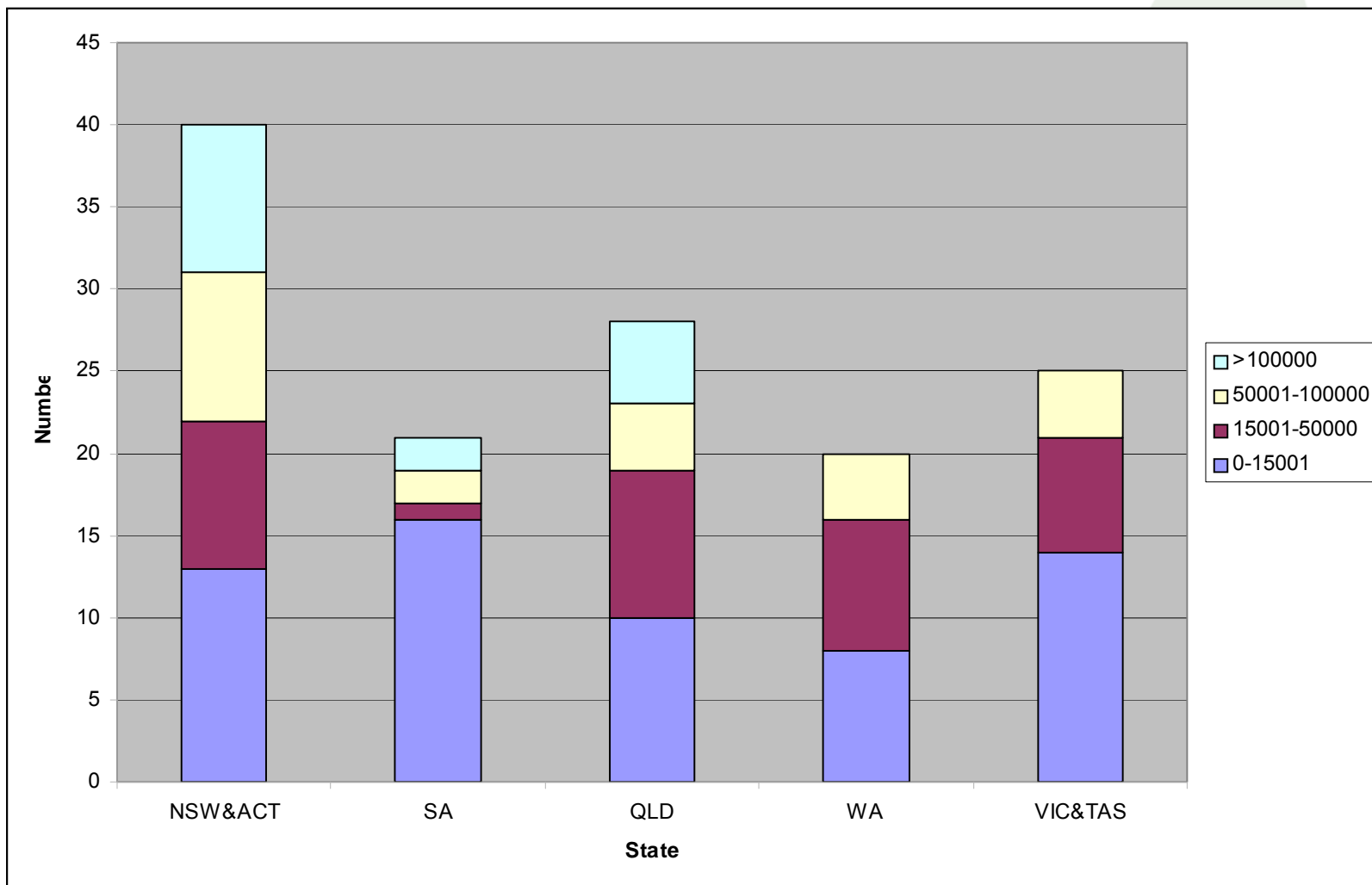
Composters come from several backgrounds:

- Nursery and garden supplies (30-40 years)
- Agriculture (<10 years)
- Source separated urban wastes (<15 years)
- Treatment of mixed urban wastes (<10 years)

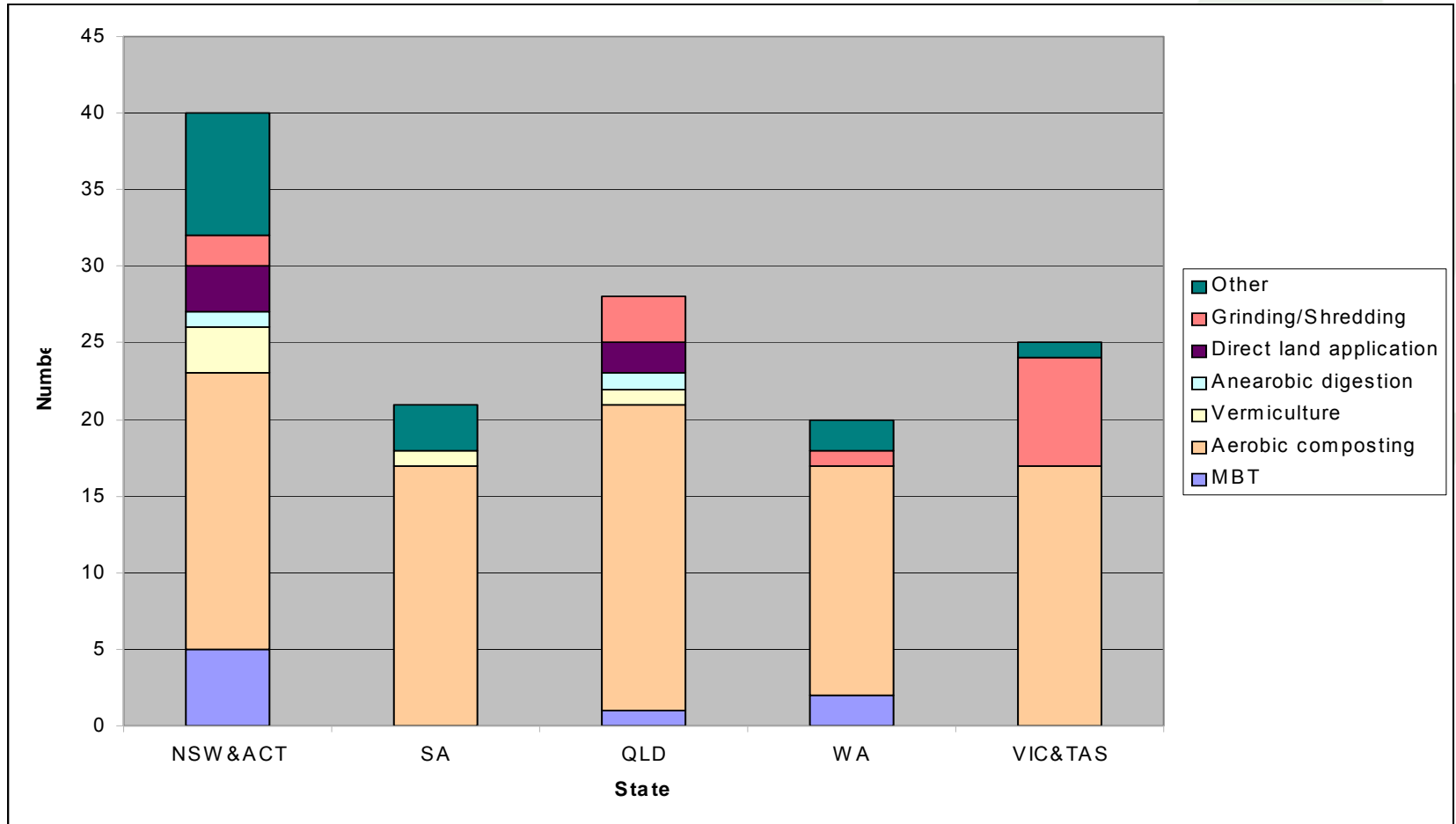
How big is the Industry?

- 5.5 million tonnes processed
- 130+ businesses selling products
- 70 businesses of any significant size
- 12 businesses composting
> 100,000 tonnes/yr
- Top 3 businesses composting
>300,000 tonnes/yr
- Many more making compost for own use

Businesses by size



Process Type

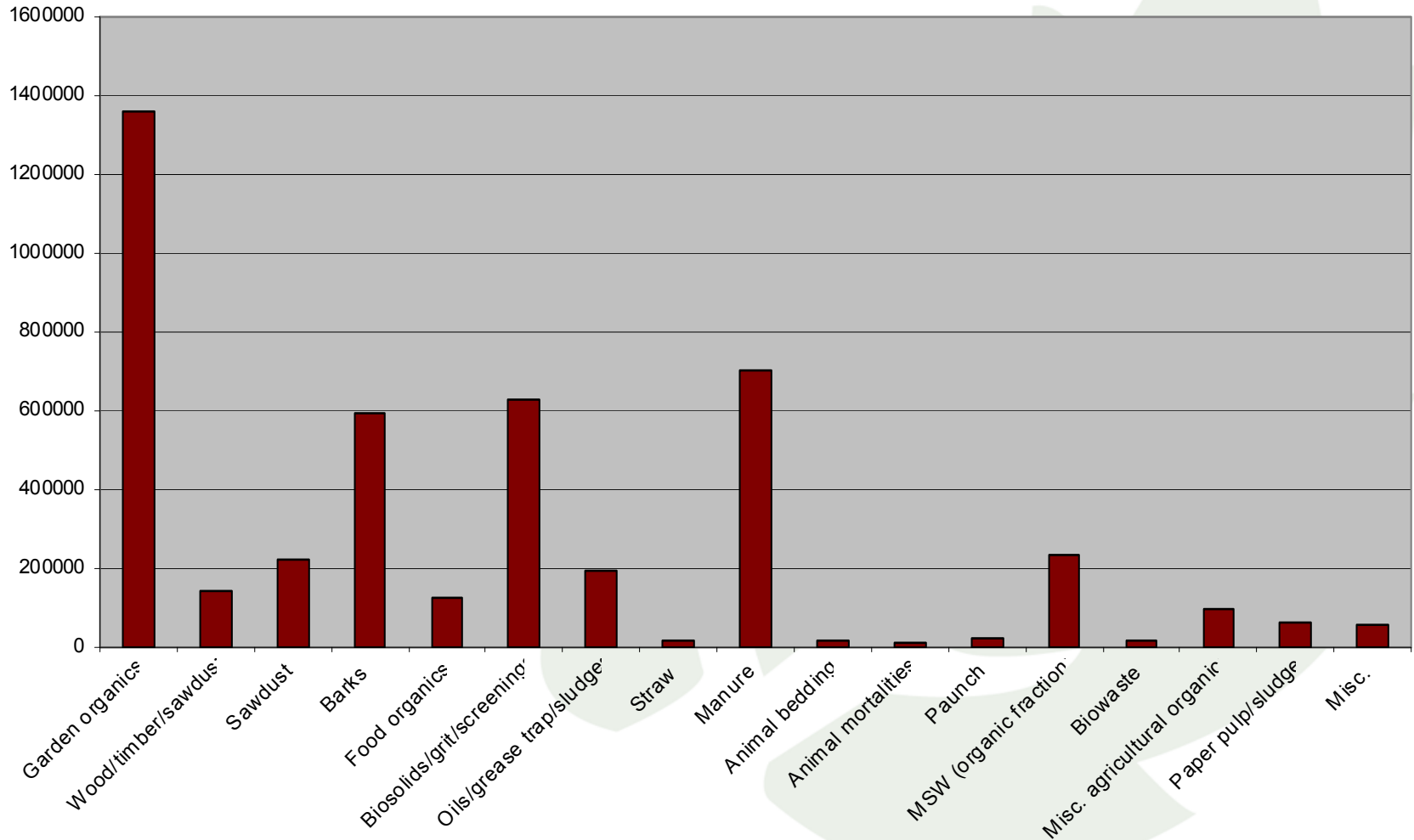


Made from...?

COMPOST
AUSTRALIA



A Division of the WASTE MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA



What is compost?

- Physical properties
 - Particle size
 - Contamination limits
- Biological properties
 - Stability
 - Maturity
- Chemical properties
 - Organic carbon and nutrients
 - pH, EC, CEC etc.

Particle Size

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SOIL CONDITIONER <15mm minus

MULCH > 16mm plus



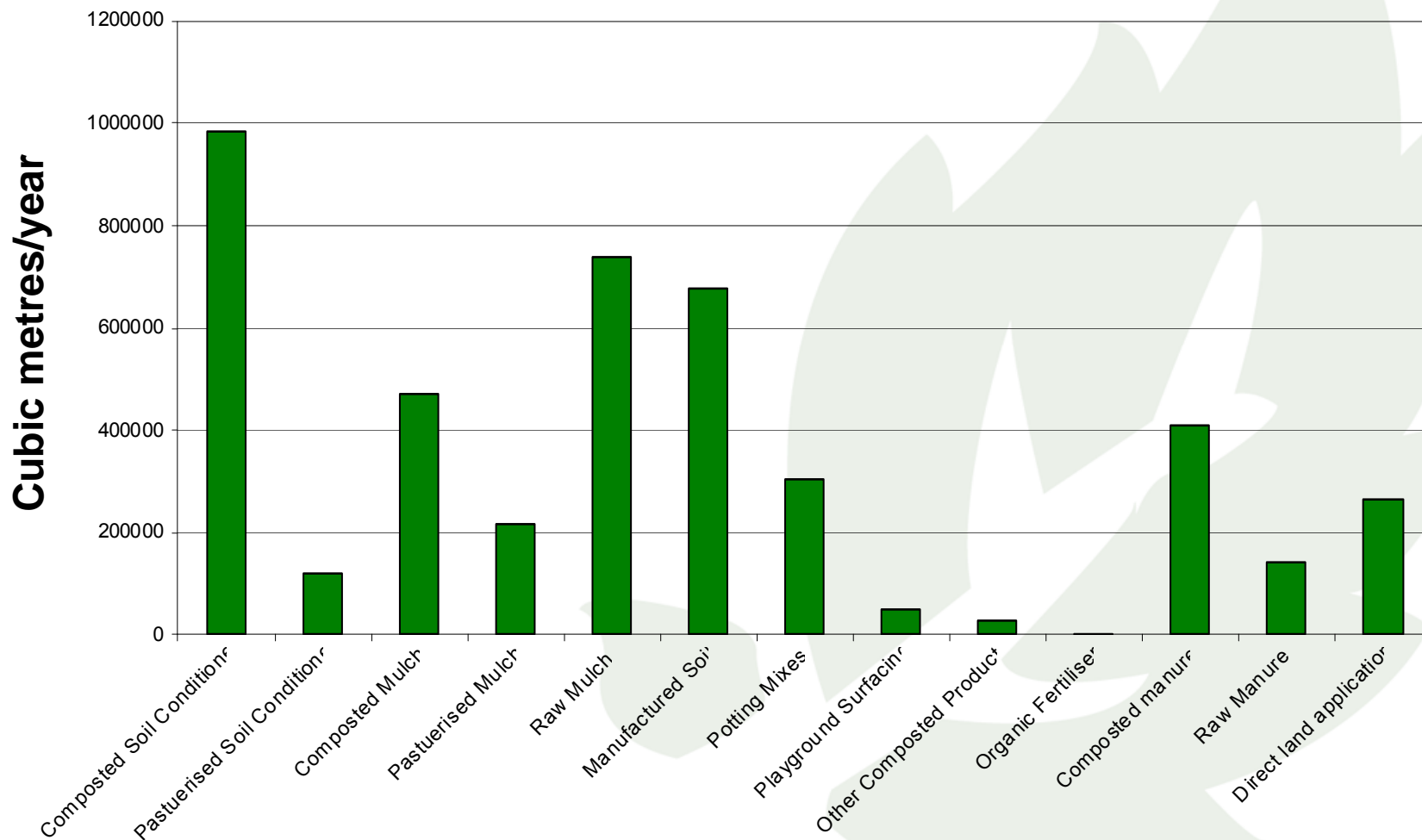
TAILORED PRODUCTS ARE AVAILABLE TO MEET YOUR REQUIREMENTS

Stability and Maturity

A four step “Maturity Index”

1. Raw
2. Pastuerised
3. Composted - semi-stable
4. Composted – stable and mature

Products in 4 States



Product Standards

- Australian Standards
 - Composts, soil conditioners and mulches
 - Manufactured soils
 - Potting mixes
- Organic input standards
 - BFA
 - NASAA

Product Branding

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Australian
Standard



Purpose

To develop products that:

1. Are designed for specific applications or contexts
2. Deliver specified performance outcomes when used as recommended
3. Include product specifications and guidelines for use

Product Types

- **Soil Conditioners**
- **Mulches**
- **Manufactured Soils** (AS4419)
- **Potting Mixes** (AS3743)
- **Playground Surfacing** (AS4422)
- **Filtration medium (stormwater/bio-filter)**
- **Energy and fuels**



The Process

Step 1	Know your product (output)
Step 2	Identify target market
Step 3	Needs Analysis
Step 4	Gap Analysis
Step 5	Define Product Characteristics
Step 6	Define Product Application
Step 7	Product Validation

Product Information

- Provided with every certified product
- Two page standard content and layout
- Modeled on US Seal of Testing Assurance
- Customer knows how, when and where to use the product
- Customer can make direct comparisons between products

How much?

- Composted mulches and soil conditioners
- Delivered and applied
- \$30-\$100 per cubic metre
- \$40-\$140 per tonne
- 5 to 100 tonnes per hectare
- \$500 - \$1500 per hectare
- Higher value composts can be transported up to 600 km

Take home message..

We systematically replace nutrients in the soil without question but we hardly ever replace the carbon we take out.

Compost does that job and much more...